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People demonstrate against the proposed Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion in Burnaby on Sunday. CARA MCKENNA/METRO

'THIS IS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN'

Hundreds rally at Kinder Morgan terminal following four-day walk to protest pipeline expansion

metroNEWS

Coast guard defends scuttling dive team

RESCUE

Laying off and reassigning crew may endanger lives, sources say

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

The Canadian Coast Guard is defending its decision to scuttle its only dive rescue team last Thursday — laying off seven members of the 26-person crew at its Sea Island, Richmond hovercraft base and reassigning the rest.

A spokesperson told Metro that Vancouverites are safer at sea than they were two years ago thanks to nearly $3 billion in boosted Coast Guard funding.

"Funding is not being cut, but rather re-directed," insisted spokesperson Michelle Imbeau in an email.

That's little comfort to several current and retired members of the Coast Guard, who warned that ending the 20-year-old dive operations will almost certainly put mariners' lives at risk.

No one else in the region can perform the types of dangerous rescues the "highly skilled, highly trained" divers could perform, according to retired Kitsilano Coast Guard Station officer-in-charge Fred Moxey.

The federal Liberals were applauded for their election promise to reopen the Kitsilano station after former Prime Minister Stephen Harper shuttered it. His successor, Justin Trudeau, reopened it in 2015.

But his government's move to axe the nearby dive team has angered those who once lauded Trudeau's pledge. The diving operations included everything from capsized recreational and fishing boats to overturned float planes, and passengers trapped inside vehicles that plunged into the water.

"The hypocrisy that the Liberal government is doing this after they were extremely vocal about the Tories' cuts," said Dave Clark, Western vice-president of the Union of Canadian Transportation Employees, which represents some Coast Guard members. "People have died when they did this before. This time they won't be able to keep this under a rug when someone dies."

Moxey said by saving lives, even if only a few, the dive team served its purpose as the only agency doing underwater rescues in the region.

"If this happens, and they shut down the base, it's really limiting their effectiveness in saving people's lives," he said.

Not so, countered the Coast Guard. Imbeau said the decision to "discontinue" the diving capability — the only one of its kind in all of Canada — arose from the federal Liberal government's 2016 budget, which asked the Coast Guard to conduct "a thorough review of its programs and services."

It's not the first time the dive team came under budgetary threat. It was initially axed in the early 2000s, but after several fatal incidents was reopened and expanded.

Hundreds rally at Kinder Morgan terminal gates

PROTEST

End of 4-day walk against Trans Mountain expansion

Cara McKenna
For Metro

Several hundred people rallied at the gates of Kinder Morgan's terminal in Burnaby on Sunday at the conclusion of four-day walk against fossil fuel expansion.

Some of the marchers, including federal Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, embarked on a full 75-kilometre journey from Victoria, while others joined at various stops along the way. Though the sun blazed down, energy was high as the walkers made their way to the terminal gates before a festival in nearby Westridge Park. The Walk for the Salish Sea took place between May 25 to 28.

Cedar George-Parker, a youth from Tsleil-Waututh Nation who works with the community's anti-pipeline initiative, told the crowd at Kinder Morgan's Burnaby terminal that he will fight for his land.

"I will fight for future generations, not by myself but I stand with my brothers and sisters here," George-Parker said. "This is not going to happen, because we're not fighting for money, we're fighting for lives, we're fighting for each other."

Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline expansion is set to increase tanker traffic in Tsleil-Waututh's backyard sevenfold.

People demonstrate with an inflatable orca against the proposed Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion in Burnaby on Sunday, May 28, 2017 following a four-day march from Victoria to the Kinder Morgan terminal in Burnaby. CARA MCKENNA/METRO

The $7.4-billion expansion would also triple the flow of bitumen oil through the existing pipeline from Alberta to Burnaby. Kinder Morgan recently announced it plans to move ahead with the project as long as it secures satisfactory financing.

Stephen Collis, who was sued by Kinder Morgan in 2014 after speaking out about test work the company was doing on Burnaby Mountain, said the four-day walk was symbolic because the group passed by large parts of the Salish Sea threatened by an oil spill.

"The intention is right there," he said. "To draw attention to these unceded territories, the nations that could be most affected by the project, and the ecosystems that are most affected by the project." Indigenous leaders from communities around the province, including Secwepemc, Sechelt and Coldwater were also present at the event, along with several local, provincial and federal politicians.

Green Party Leader May said she is disappointed in Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for "breaking" his campaign promise about forging a new relationship with Indigenous people.

"That's the single most important sacred promise that was made in the election, and approving permits for the Site C dam, approving Petronas up at Lelu Island, and approving Kinder Morgan, break a sacred vow," she said. "Justin, I'm so disappointed in you. You should be ashamed."

> **I will fight for future generations, not by myself but I stand with my brothers and sisters here**
> Cedar George-Parker

POLICE

Driver purposely crashing into cars

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

A 40-year-old Saanich resident is in custody after police allege she purposely drove into several cars, including police cars Saturday night.

Saanich police first heard of the driver's behaviour at 10:30 p.m. Saturday after reports say she intentionally collided with an occupied car on the 1500 block of Church Street, injuring the other driver. The suspect fled before police arrived in a mid-size hatchback vehicle, according to a Saanich police release.

She continued to purposely strike other vehicles using her car in Victoria and Oak Bay, according to local police departments. Officers there tried to stop her but were unsuccessful.

At about 11:30 p.m., police spotted the suspect back in Saanich and when they tried to stop her car, she crashed into a ditch. She then fled on foot but police K-9 and traffic units were able to apprehend her.

The suspect was taken to hospital with minor injuries.

"With the amount of occupied vehicles hit by the female driver it is amazing that nobody suffered any major injuries during this situation," said Cst. Damian Kowalewich in a written release.

The suspect is facing six counts of hit-and-runs, one count of dangerous driving and another for causing police pursuit, as well as two counts of assaulting a police officer.

POLICE

Body of missing Cache Creek fire chief found

The body of a fire chief believed to have been swept away by high flood waters in British Columbia's Interior has been found.

RCMP Cpl. Dan Moskaluk said the Ashcroft fire department found Clayton Cassidy's body in the water at about 10:30 p.m. Saturday, during its daily patrol of Cache Creek.

Cassidy had been missing since May 5, following heavy rainfall and intense flooding. He was last known to be checking water levels in Cache Creek, and his vehicle was later found at the site.

He was thought to have been swept away by the flood water, and was presumed dead after several days. Moskaluk said the discovery appears to confirm that theory.

"It's thought that Mr. Cassidy had fallen in the creek several weeks ago when we had torrential downpours in the area," he said.

Moskaluk says recovery efforts are still ongoing. "We're confident that we should be able to complete a safe recovery today," he said.

Cache Creek mayor John Ranta said Cassidy was "highly respected" in the community.

> **It's thought that Mr. Cassidy had fallen in the creek several weeks ago.**
> RCMP Cpl. Dan Moskaluk

After floods hit the area in May of 2015, Cassidy worked hard to help residents whose homes were damaged. He was given a Medal of Good Citizenship by the provincial government for his service.

"He worked day after day after day after day, 14-hour days, helping people that had debris in their yards or sand and gravel or whatnot," Ranta said. "He just worked tirelessly until the whole community was cleaned up."

Ranta said Cassidy's death will be deeply felt in Cache Creek. "While flood damage can be repaired and we can take measures to prevent further flooding, the thing that can't be replaced is the life of Clayton Cassidy. That will be a tragedy that lives with us for years to come," he said.

CARA MCKENNA/METRO

Clayton Cassidy's body was found during a daily patrol of Cache Creek. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO — PROVINCE OF B.C., DON CRAIG

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Can the selection of Andrew Scheer woo the youth vote from the Liberals? **Canada**

Hungry bears 'dangerous'

WILDLIFE

Campground closed after bears charged at campers

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

With summer weather in full swing in B.C.'s south coast, authorities are urging people to clean up after themselves when they visit the province's parks because not doing so could lead to some deadly consequences.

One popular camping and hiking spot near Pemberton, Keyhole Falls, has already been closed as of May 10 after several bears charged people in the area.

That kind of behaviour could quickly escalate, said B.C. recreation officer, Alistair McCrone.

"There is a sow with two cubs who has several times charged and chased people until they drop their backpacks and then they go through their backpacks for their food. It's one step away from that bear attacking someone in pursuit of that food," said the former park ranger.

There are about five adult bears that frequent the area and go straight into people's tents or toward people in search of food, he said.

"It's order of magnitudes more dangerous than anything I've seen before."

A campground near Pemberton has closed after bears charged at campers in pursuit of food. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

This is not the first time in recent years authorities have had to shut down trails or campgrounds due to aggressive bears — authorities closed both Keyhole Falls and High Falls Recreation Site last summer due to people leaving food and garbage around, according to McCrone.

Keyhole Falls was open for a brief time after the spring melt but it soon became evident people were still leaving food unsecured and the bears had not forgotten where they could get snacks last year.

It has become a "life or death" situation, said McCrone.

"If you're in the area, you may very well be attacked by the bears. You may or may not survive that type of incident."

Conservation officer Brittany Mueller says it's a potentially deadly situation for the bears, too.

"If their behaviour scales up, they would be killed. We don't want to have to do that."

With the stakes so high, she says it's frustrating when people don't seem to understand the message of "pack in, pack out."

"It's really hard for us after we go to these sites after a long weekend and there is tons of garbage left out."

Local authorities at Cultus Lake are seeing a similar situation play out, said Chilliwack city councillor, Sam Waddington.

"It's an ongoing issue and it seems to be getting worse," he said.

"You've got people leaving bags of chips, clothing, baby bottles, cans out on the docks and it's a mountain lake and the wind will blow this garbage into the lake and it sinks."

> **"If their behaviour scales up, they would be killed. We don't want to have to do that.**
> Brittany Mueller

Volunteer scuba divers clean up the lake several times a year and residents pick up garbage on the shore and dock — it piles up to approximately three tonnes of garbage every year, said Waddington.

That fragrant garbage is the smell of dinner to a bear, said Mueller.

"There is a lot of wildlife out there and bears are food driven and they will seek out food sources. They have an incredibly good sense of smell."

Conservation officers have had to kill several bears and cougars at Cultus Lake over the years because they started to associate humans with food, said Waddington. He hopes that can be avoided this year, and that starts with keeping the area clean.

"These are the places we're supposed to go out and enjoy pristine nature and educate our kids and show visitors how beautiful natural British Columbia is," he said.

"I don't understand the mental process that leads to someone to say, I'm going to drive an hour and a half to get to this pristine place and then I'm going to make it ugly."

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Youth-focused clinics opening

WELLNESS

Initiative to speed delivery of mental health across province

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Philanthropists Diane and Bob Conconi (third and fifth from left, respectively) meet with Vancouver youth in support of Foundry B.C.'s integrated health services for under-24s, soon to expand provincewide starting in summer 2017.
SUPPLIED/FOUNDRY B.C.

After two years, a Vancouver health initiative connecting nearly 1,000 teens and young adults with mental, medical and social services is preparing for its big expansion across British Columbia.

Envisioned by St. Paul's Hospital psychiatrists as a "one-stop shop" for young British Columbians under 24 struggling to navigate the province's mental health, medical and addiction treatment systems, Foundry B.C. is about to open more youth-focused clinics across B.C. — bolstered by provincial backing and a $1-million fundraising effort that ends Wednesday.

"Youth and young adults have told us again and again that when you're a teenager, you're often put on a long waitlist, it can be difficult to know where to go for help, and that mental health and substance use services aren't integrated," explained the organization's executive director, St. Paul's psychiatry head Dr. Steve Mathias, in a phone interview. "We realized very early there are a lot of services in various communities trying to support youth — doing the best they can — but that they're often working in silos. We needed a solution that broke down those silos."

In April, Foundry's original clinic, the 2015-founded Granville Youth Health Centre, was joined by a second site in Campbell River.

Soon, more of the youth-focused clinics are set to open on the North Shore this July, in Prince George and Kelowna soon after, and then in Abbotsford this fall, Mathias said. Five more will follow next year.

"This model, to be clear, isn't all about new funding," he said. "A lot of it is existing resources and services coming together and working under one roof.

"When youth come in, it could be because they broke up with boyfriend, or they have a rash and don't know what caused it, or they're coming in with psychosis or severe depression."

If what the youth needs isn't available on-site, clinic staff ensure they are helped "to bridge them to a stepped-up service" instead of leaving them to fend for themselves with whatever health issue they're concerned about.

"We really hope this is a model that will spread across the province," Mathias said.

Foundry's expansion to more B.C. cities — several of them facing disproportionate rates of youth addiction and opioid overdoses — coincides with a St. Paul's fundraising campaign that's gained the attention of two wealthy benefactors — Diane and Bob Conconi.

The couple made headlines in 2014 after donating the luxurious Pender Island home they built to the B.C. Cancer Foundation, following Bob's own battle with throat cancer. Three years later, the two philanthropists offered to match any contributions to the youth mental health project until this Wednesday, up to $500,000.

Bob Conconi is a retired financial services entrepreneur who co-founded Canadian Securities Registration Systems.

For more about Foundry B.C. — formerly the BC Integrated Youth Services Initiative — visit www.foundrybc.ca.helpstpauls.com/supportyouth.

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Health Canada OKs consumption sites

DRUGS

Vancouver will get one new site, while Surrey gets two

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Health Canada is allowing three additional supervised drug consumption sites to operate in the Lower Mainland — two in Surrey and one in Vancouver.

The move fulfils a promise from Jane Philpott, Canada's federal health minister, to support and expedite applications to open more of the sites. At supervised drug consumption sites, nurses are present as people take illicit drugs and can assist in case of an overdose as well as connect people to other health or social services. Insite at 139 E. Hastings St., operated by Vancouver Coastal Health and the Portland Hotel Society, opened in 2003, while a supervised consumption site at Vancouver's Dr. Peter Centre has operated since 2002.

Stephen Harper's Conservative government attempted to shut InSite down, but a Supreme Court decision in 2011 ordered the government to exempt the clinic from prosecution for drug crimes. However, a strict Conservative-era federal law continued to make opening new sites extremely difficult.

On May 18, the federal government, now led by the Liberals, passed a bill that streamlines the process for opening a new supervised drug consumption site.

"International and Canadian evidence shows that, when properly established and maintained, supervised consumption sites save lives without increasing drug use or crime in the surrounding area," Health Canada said in a statement.

"The evidence also shows that they decrease infections and the transmission of communicable disease, and can also decrease the use of emergency departments, as well as hospital admissions related to injection drug use."

A deadly overdose crisis, fuelled by the powerful synthetic opioid fentanyl, is currently killing four people every day in British Columbia. The death toll has also started to climb in other Canadian provinces. In response, in December 2016 several health authorities across B.C. started to open what they called overdose prevention sites, where volunteers or staff would be present to administer first aid in case of an overdose.

B.C.'s provincial health officer, Dr. Perry Kendall, said at the time he was confident the federal government would not object.

People gather outside North America's first supervised injection site, Insite, located in the Downtown Eastside. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LOCATIONS

- **Lookout Society Powell Street Getaway, Vancouver**
- **Quibble Creek Sobering Assessment Centre, Surrey**
- **Lookout Society – 135 A Street, Surrey**
- A fourth application was approved in Montreal and three other supervised consumption sites in Montreal were approved in early 2017.

AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

City launches consultations on 10-year housing plan

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

How can Vancouver become a place where people can afford to live?

That's the big question at the heart of a public consultation launched Friday by the City of Vancouver as it tries to develop a new 10-year housing plan.

According to a statement from the city, it is looking for all Vancouver residents to provide feedback on what kinds of housing are needed in the city to meet the incomes and needs of people.

The city has set up a website, vancouver.ca/housing, where people can complete an online survey, read about the city's proposed plans and register for public events like the upcoming June 17 dialogue, The Big Conversation — The Future of Housing in Vancouver.

Consultations will continue through the summer, but city staff will report to council on initial feedback in July, where the city will propose interim 10-year housing targets to create "the right type" of housing needed in the city, according to the statement.

The city then hopes to develop a final Housing Vancouver Strategy later this year.

Vancouver already had a 10-year housing plan developed in 2012 but it was scrapped halfway in because of increasing unaffordability in the region.

The city proposed a "reset" of the plan, leading to the new round of consultations this year.

"It's a critical time to boldly reset our approach to creating housing, with the affordability crisis impacting all incomes and neighbourhoods," said Mayor Gregor Robertson in the statement. "As we look at all options to keep Vancouver affordable now and into the future, I want to hear ideas from all residents on how the city can best meet their housing needs."

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Moment of youth for Tories

LEADERSHIP RACE

Can Andrew Scheer lure young voters from Liberals?

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Andrew Scheer, centre, newly elected leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, with his rival Maxime Bernier, left, following his win on Saturday. GETTY IMAGES

With Andrew Scheer, the Conservative Party picked the youngest leadership choice available this past weekend, but it's unclear whether that will be enough to attract key younger voters.

At 38, Scheer is younger than Prime Minister Justin Trudeau or current NDP Leader Tom Mulcair.

The Conservatives lost in 2015, not because their core support left them but because a new crop of 18- to 34-year-old voters turned out to support Justin Trudeau.

James Hawkes, 25, is among Scheer's supporters. Joined by fellow party members in Saskatoon, where he is involved with campus Conservatives, he watched his preferred candidate come to victory. Hawkes has no doubt Scheer will be able to bridge the generational divide.

"He's the closet thing we have had to a millennial in any of the major parties," he said. "Andrew is going to appeal to youth, definitely."

Hawkes said millennials don't all think the same way, and Scheer's pledge to remove funding from universities that don't protect freedom of speech will have broad appeal.

"They don't feel they're allowed to speak about what matters to them and their beliefs on various topics," he said.

Quito Maggi, president of Mainstreet Research, polled extensively on the race. He said that even though Scheer is younger, he's unlikely to tap into the youth vote.

"Despite Andrew Scheer's appearance and age, they picked the wrong candidate to appeal to millennials," said Maggi. "With his ideology, with his policy background, I don't think he is going to have an easy time."

He said Scheer's social conservatism — even if he is committing not to legislate on it — is going to be a tough sell for younger voters.

Maggi said he believes Scheer is banking on those voters staying home or gravitating to a new NDP leader in 2019.

"He's not interested in increasing the size of the Conservative tent," he said. "There is no real interest in reaching out."

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POLITICS

Trudeau and Scheer talk trade in first call

New Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer's victory speech was peppered with attacks on Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

But on Sunday, the two spoke by phone in the aftermath of Scheer's win, one that now also makes him the official Opposition leader in the House of Commons.

Trudeau called Scheer from Italy, where the prime minister is currently on a state visit following the G7 summit.

"They discussed issues of importance including making Parliament work for Canadians and the important relationship with the United States," read a statement from the Prime Minister's Office.

"They agreed to meet in person in the coming weeks."

Despite the pro forma call, the Liberals have not wasted time attacking Scheer, either, painting him as an extremist, with his call for an end to federal funding for universities that don't guarantee free speech on campus.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Armed police stand at the start of the Great Manchester Run in Manchester, England Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

MARAWI

Philippines battles militants amid blood bath

Philippine forces found corpses in the streets of a besieged southern city on Sunday, including at least eight civilians who appeared to have been executed, as soldiers battled a weakened but still forceful group of militants linked to Daesh. The death toll from six days of fighting neared 100.

The crisis in Marawi has grown increasingly dire as the militants show unexpected strength, fending off a military that has unleashed attack helicopters, armoured vehicles and scores of soldiers.

The violence prompted President Rodrigo Duterte on Tuesday to declare 60 days of martial law in the southern Philippines, where a Muslim separatist rebellion has raged for decades. But the recent bloodshed in Marawi has raised fears that extremism is growing as smaller militant groups unify and align themselves with Daesh.

Much of the city is a no-go zone, but as the military advances and more civilians escape, the scope of the battle is becoming clear.

Thousands of civilians have streamed out of Marawi and more than 2,000 were still trapped inside the city. .

"Have mercy on us, we don't have any more water to drink," read one of the messages, sent to a hotline set up for trapped residents. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philippine forces on their way to an assault in Marawi on Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

U.K. remains on high alert

BOMBING

More arrests made after terror attack in Manchester

STATEMENT

American singer Ariana Grande says she will return to Manchester for a benefit concert to raise money for attack victims and their families. Grande tweeted a statement saying details are still being finalized.

British police made two more arrests and stormed three more locations Sunday as they hunted for suspects in the Manchester bombing, while a government minister said members of attacker Salman Abedi's network may still be at large.

Greater Manchester Police said two men — one 25 years old and the other 19 — were arrested in the city on suspicion of terrorist offences. Eleven other men between the ages of 18 and 44 also were in custody.

Most of the searches and arrests since Monday night's bombing have been in multi-ethnic south Manchester, where Abedi the son of Libyan parents — was born and raised.

Police say that 1,000 people are working on the investigation, trying to track down Abedi's accomplices and piece together his movements in the days before he detonated a bomb at an Ariana Grande concert. The explosion killed 22 people — including seven children under 18 — and injured more than 100.

Abedi died in the blast. Investigators say they have dismantled a large part of his network, but expect to make more arrests.

"The operation is still at full tilt," Home Secretary Amber Rudd said, adding that some suspects could remain at large.

"Until the operation is complete, we can't be entirely sure that it is closed," she said.

British police now have 13 suspects in custody — including Abedi's elder brother Ismail — and have searched properties across Manchester, a city in northwest England. Another brother and Abedi's father have been detained in Libya. Police have released surveillance-camera images of Abedi on the night of the attack that show him dressed in sneakers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHITE HOUSE

Trump eyes overhaul to tackle Russia crisis

President Donald Trump is considering overhauling his White House staff and bringing back top campaign strategists, frustrated by what he views as his team's inability to contain the burgeoning crisis involving alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Expanding teams of lawyers and experienced public relations hands are being recruited to deal with the drumbeat of new revelations about Moscow's interference and possible improper dealings with the Trump campaign and associates. The disclosures dogged the president during his first trip abroad since taking office and threaten to overwhelm and stall the agenda for his young administration. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Monday, May 29, 2017

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION
Do I have to refer to someone by their preferred pronouns?

Dear Ellen,

My 22-year-old son has a friend who looks and sounds female to me, but he says she is "non-binary," meaning not male or female, and she does not want to be called "she" or "her" anymore. Instead, I'm supposed to call her "they" or "them." I try my best, but I find it all very confusing and often forget to use the correct pronoun, which makes my son furious. He says I'm being terribly rude and insulting, but isn't it a bit rude to expect me to change how I talk just to accommodate someone else's radical political views?

Confused Mom

Dear Confused Mom,

Wowza, ma'am. You have opened a giant tinderbox here, but it's a good one, and increasingly relevant, so let's discuss.

First, consider a similar language issue from another era. Before the term Ms. came in, men were identified as Mr., regardless of marital status, while women were identified as Mrs. or Miss. In other words, with a simple honorific, society instantly divided women into married (off limits, i.e., sexually unavailable) or single (sexually available if young, or proven sexual reject if older).

Many chauvinists (male and female) fought the use of Ms., suspecting (correctly) that it threatened the patriarchal status quo by chipping away at how female humans overall are seen and defined. But in terms of etiquette, the rules are on the side of Ms. — that is, if you believe etiquette means treating all human beings as equal (which it does). Simply put, all humans are equally entitled to keep their marital status private in public and on paper. So the use of Ms. has rightly prevailed, and we should all use it, unless a woman insists on being called Mrs., in which case one should politely respect her wishes to be so identified.

Your non-binary pronoun question is complex, but similar. The request feels unreasonable because it doesn't make sense to people who grew up thinking the world was male or female, period. It helps if you try to understand that "being" male or female, or neither, is not a choice or a "radical political view." It's a real feeling, rooted in a sense of personal identity.

But whether you understand this or not, or like it or not, the right thing to do is respect your son's friend's request and make an effort to use the neutral pronoun.

Don't worry if you make mistakes — as long as you proceed in good faith and make an honest effort, they can be politely patient with, and appreciative of, broad-minded you.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
askellen@metronews.ca

VICKY MOCHAMA

With reality-TV flair, Conservatives choose the 'nice guy' leader

Poised to pick a bombastic-yet-unknowing reality TV businessman then finding a leading contender in a Quebec libertarian, the Conservative Party of Canada picked a man who definitely has a Wikipedia page.

The Saturday night selection of Andrew Scheer was done with a dramatic panache worthy of some of the best reality television producers. It is a nail-biting style that, let's be honest, I did not think the Conservatives had.

Polls closed at 4 p.m., but the party didn't announce a leader until well into the evening.

This could be thanks in part to the fairly technical way the party votes for its leader, involving ranked ballots and a complex points system.

Back in 2004, they had to figure out all this by hand, but this year the process has been automated.

In all likelihood, the computer had already done the math by 4:30 p.m., and was onto planning world domination by the time the Conservatives crowned Scheer.

But why squander the chance to own the airwaves? And why not become a trending topic on social media where I, a millennial without cable, could follow along as people united to hate on Kevin O'Leary?

The producers of America's Next Top Model, The Bachelor, Survivor, Project Runway and other fine reputable fare could not have done better. It would only have been more delightful if, in Andrew Scheer's first speech as leader, he announced that he wasn't here to make friends.

In round after round, Maxime Bernier led the ballots until the very last one in which Scheer *juuust* outscored him.

In many ways, it reminded me of the first season of Paradise Hotel when after a season of mostly being ahead, Dave, an affable kind man, ended up being screwed over by his partner, Charla, a "nice girl" with the heart of a super villain.

Sure, the nice guy won on Saturday, but at what cost?

For most Canadians, Scheer is not well known. A field of 14 candidates during an unruly time did not help him. As the country heads towards the 2019 election, the stakes are high: modest overall economic growth is being challenged by a recession affecting Calgary and Edmonton, and a heated housing market in Toronto and Vancouver — while internationally, an overgrown and dangerous infant threatens the stability of global peace.

The party managed a couple hours of drama. Now they'll have to produce several seasons of the Scheer Show.

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Stranger than *fiction*

TELEVISION

Trump's reign renders House of Cards irrelevant

Tony Wong
life@metronews.ca

Spoiler alert: Story has details of previous seasons

Frank Underwood is a killer.

We know this because the fictional president once shoved a reporter in front of a subway car. Finely and indulgently played by Kevin Spacey, Underwood is mercurial, cunning and the most dangerous man on television.

Yet current events have conspired to make the infamous fake president seem reductive and, improbably, smaller than life.

House of Cards returns for a fifth season, with Spacey and first lady Claire Underwood (Robin Wright) as the rulers of an alternate Camelot, a kind of sociopathic Bill and Hillary Clinton. At any other time this would be substantive, trippy entertainment. The darkness of the show played well during the seeming naïveté of an Obama administration.

And then came Donald Trump.

Spacey plays Underwood on TV like it was written by Shakespeare, a politician who plays three-dimensional chess when the other guys are playing hopscotch after a dozen beers. The beauty of House of Cards was that it took you deep into the bowels of the West Wing, while our anti-hero president vanquished foes like a true Master of Whisperers. It sometimes took an entire season to pass a crucial piece of legislation using those dark arts. But the details were exquisite.

Now there is Trump. Suddenly it's apparent that you don't need experience, or smarts, or even a basic understanding of world affairs to be president. While Spacey's playbook is right out of Machiavelli's The Prince, Trump is absurdly cartoonish, his clumsy manoeuvres stolen from WrestleMania. That's not surprising, since the president sits in the WWE Hall of Fame.

With Trump we have learned that sophistry does not win you points. Or an election. Why be like Frank Underwood, delicately tap dancing through congress when the blunt instrument of an executive order is far more to the point?

Trump doesn't care about the fine print, and so far, despite stumbling past his first 100 days, he's still gamely hanging on, a wounded, angry creature. Underwood's southern charm is benign by comparison.

Like HBO's comedy Veep, about a narcissistic, over-the-top politician clinging to power played by Julia Louis-Dreyfus, House of Cards has been usurped by reality. It's hard to satirize a president who is satirizing himself.

Still, House of Cards has often veered into excess, sharing more DNA with Veep than All The President's Men as it careened from drama to black parody.

That seemed evident last season when the president decided to put his wife on the ticket as the vice-president. That sort of nepotism would be laughable — and arguably, it detracted from the realism of the show.

Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright return for a fifth season of House of Cards. CONTRIBUTED

But then Trump put his daughter Ivanka in the White House and let his son-in-law Jared Kushner handle foreign affairs, all the while continuing to blatantly profit in his business from political connections while a special investigator decides whether his staff was colluding with Russians.

Rest in peace, House of Cards. You delivered a decent season with fine performances. But the world has, incomprehensibly, passed you by. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Using farmers to save badgers

CONSERVATION

Endangered creatures rely on the help of farms to live

Owen Roberts
Urban Cowboy

The nocturnal creatures are sometimes scorned in the U.S. for leaving damaging holes. PHOTOS: COURTESY ONTARIO BADGER PROJECT

Ontario's 200 endangered badgers are hanging on by a thread. And their habitat — perhaps even their future — depends a great deal on farmers.

Badgers live in burrows around the perimeters of farmers' fields and creeksides. They're common in Western Canada and parts of the U.S., where they're sometimes scorned for leaving holes that can ruin expensive farm equipment.

But not in Ontario. Here, badgers are scarce and elusive.

Biologist Josh Sayers, leader of the Ontario Badger Project, a conservation program to save the grizzled grey creatures, calls them "ghost-like."

Indeed, because they're nocturnal, few people ever see them. Plus, they have a huge range that they move within every few days. One badger around Tillsonburg, Ont., called 80,000 acres home. That encompasses many farms.

"Because badgers' range is so broad, we need farmers to work together to help maintain habitat," says Sayers. "Nearly all of our work takes place on farms. For badgers, agriculture is huge."

Sayers has worked with farmers for eight years to help badgers survive. Through farm visits and through the project's website, he answers questions about these mysterious creatures — their distribution and abundance, habitat, prey (they're carnivores), mortality, and how they fit into the agricultural landscape of southern Ontario.

It's an uneasy existence for badgers here. This is the eastern fringe of their continental range, so they were never very plentiful here to begin with. And it doesn't take much to disrupt their ecosystems, like cities swallowing up Ontario farmland.

That makes farmers' conservation efforts even more important.

But even at the best of times, how do you keep track of 200 badgers in a province the size of Ontario?

Well, besides registering activity such as burrows and sightings (including road kill — see sidebar) Sayers and a handful of others, including researchers at the University of Guelph, have outfitted 10 badgers with small radio transmitters.

Through a dozen motion-activated trail cameras (sorry, no badger cam) strategically placed near known burrows, they monitor the animals' movement.

Such remote surveillance beats trying to follow a badger on foot, from county to county, or meeting one face to face, especially if it feels threatened. Badgers are known for punching above their weight, as seen in the video that went viral of the badger in Utah burying an entire cow carcass.

But despite their ferocity, badgers' future depends on farmers' help with habitat.

And they're getting it.

Over the past 30 years or so, various levels of government and conservation authorities have helped farmers replant thousands of acres of trees, and retire fragile land along creeks, rivers and lakes.

Those measures are vital for food, water and shelter for many wild animals, including badgers.

"There's a very strong and growing ethic in the farm community to appreciate and manage the landscape for biodiversity," says Harold Rudy, executive officer of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association. "We run a lot of conservation programs and workshops for farmers across Ontario, and they are almost always sold out."

Owen Roberts is an agricultural journalist at the University of Guelph. Follow him on Twitter at @TheUrbanCowboy.

THE FUTURE *of* FARMING

Badger spotting
Spot a badger burrow on a hike? Call the hotline **1-877-715-9299** (toll-free) or email **info@ontariobadgers.org**. Badger burrows are about 10 inches in diameter and may have claw marks around their entrance. Call, too, if you find one killed on the road. It's better to do this sooner rather than later — before they decompose or become food for scavengers.

Kissin' cousins
Researchers set up Velcro "hair nags" at the top front of suspected badger burrows, to collect hair for DNA analysis. Because badger numbers are so few, studies can identify each badger through such analysis, and determine relationships between them — particularly, how inbreeding might be threatening the species' survival.

Researchers have fitted 10 badgers with radio transmitters before releasing them back into the wild.

FARM *poll*

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The Baseball Hall of Fame presented a plaque to Homer Simpson to honour the 25th anniversary of the Homer at the Bat episode

metro SPORTS

'He is the B.C. Lions'

CFL

Boss Buono reflective as he prepares for new season

Wally Buono is ready for another CFL season on the B.C. Lions' sideline. MARK TAYLOR/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halfway through the first practice of B.C. Lions' training camp, Wally Buono is leaning up against one of the goalposts observing his offence. The club's head coach and general manager is down at the other end of the field later on as the defence goes through its paces.

As the light session without pads continues, he then takes a seat on the sidelines and chats quietly with a staff member.

It might not look like it sometimes, but Buono is in complete control.

"He's like 'The Godfather,"' wide receiver Bryan Burnham said with a grin Sunday. "He's the man around here. He walks into the room and without saying a word he gets that respect.

"He's earned it."

The CFL's all-time leader in coaching victories, Buono moved upstairs to focus on front office duties after winning the Grey Cup in 2011 — his second with the team and fifth overall — but returned to the sidelines in 2016 as the Lions started to spiral into irrelevance.

With the help of a dynamic young quarterback in Jonathon Jennings, Buono inspired the team to a 12-6 campaign that saw B.C. win a playoff game for the first time in five years before falling to the Calgary Stampeders in the West Division final.

"We buy in because it's Wally. It's so easy to buy in," said Burnham. "Over the years we've had different coaches and sometimes it's hard to find that chemistry with them, but with Wally it's right there.

"He is the B.C. Lions."

Buono is committed to coach through this season, but beyond that is anyone's guess.

Friends and family have asked the 67-year-old if he plans on keeping a journal to document what could be his swan song as a CFL coach. It's an idea he scoffed at.

"That's not who I am. I struggle with all this," said Buono, who was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in 2014. "My thing is I approach this year as this year. I'm not even thinking forward."

After retiring as a player, Buono took part in his first training camp as an assistant coach in 1983 with the Montreal Concordes — before anyone on the current Lions roster was born.

What does he remember about that spring?

"Honestly, I don't," he said.

The four-time coach of the year does, however, smile when the conversation turns to what camps were like in the 1980s and 1990s.

"You were actually in pads twice in one day," said Buono. "Everything was totally different. Totally, totally different."

Times have changed and so has Buono, who made football fun again for the Lions, according to Solomon Elimimian.

"He also made it simple," said the CFL's top defender last season. "You know what to expect from him. He holds everybody accountable.... To have someone who cares about you in a business like this, it's rare."

Buono, who also won two Grey Cups as a player, doesn't like to talk about the future, but he's OK reflecting on the past and his place in the sport.

"I hope I've helped the CFL be better than it was before I came into it," he said. "As good as the league has been for me, hopefully I've done the same because I do hold it in such high regard."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

266-160-3

Wally Buono's all-time CFL coaching record.

MEMORIAL CUP

Windsor parties hard with Spitfires victory

The Windsor Spitfires are Memorial Cup champions for the third time in franchise history.

Jeremy Bracco capped a three-point effort by setting up Aaron Luchuk's winner early in the third period as the Spitfires beat the Erie Otters 4-3 on Sunday for the Canadian Hockey League championship. Windsor also won in 2009 and 2010.

Bracco, Logan Stanley and Graham Knott also scored for the host Spitfires. Michael DiPietro made 32 saves for the win.

SUNDAY In Windsor

4	3
SPITFIRES	OTTERS

Dylan Strome, Warren Foegele and TJ Fergus scored for the Otters, the Ontario Hockey League champions. Troy Timpano stopped 18 shots in defeat.

Strome was named the tournament MVP. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GYMNASTICS

Vancouver's Morgan wins national golds

Scott Morgan won two golds on Sunday during the final day of the Canadian Championships in Artistic Gymnastics in his first competition since the Rio Olympics.

Morgan, from Vancouver, was first in two apparatus finals including rings (14.350) and a tie with Aaron Mah of Vancouver on floor (13.850).

"It felt great to be back out there with the boys," said Morgan. "There's some work to be done to clean some things up but it felt great to be back out there. Heading into worlds in the fall I'm going to work on my endurance to help with my routines overall as well as work on consistent repetition to help with the new code of points changes."

Scott Morgan GETTY IMAGES FILE

Senior all-around champion Zachary Clay from Chilliwack, B.C., won gold on vault (14.150).

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IN BRIEF

Cashner slows down Jays

A solid start from Texas right-hander Andrew Cashner brought an end to the suddenly surging Toronto Blue Jays' season-high five-game winning streak.

Cashner (2-4) allowed one run and just five hits over seven innings to help the Rangers (25-26) avoid a sweep with a 3-1 win

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Totti, 40, calls it a career after 25 years with Roma

It was a celebration tinged with tears, fear and love.

Francesco Totti bid an emotional farewell to Roma after a remarkable 25-season career with his hometown club on Sunday, contributing to a 3-2 win over Genoa in Serie A that secured the Giallorossi a spot in the Champions League.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dumoulin wins Giro d'Italia

Tom Dumoulin won the 100th Giro d'Italia in dramatic fashion Sunday, reclaiming the overall lead in a final-stage individual time trial.

It's the first Grand Tour victory for the Dutchman Dumoulin.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kisner holds off Spieth to seal victory at Colonial

Kevin Kisner birdied the first three holes on the back nine to take the lead and held on to win at Colonial despite a Sunday charge by defending champion Jordan Spieth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TODAY

Classy Macerated Strawberry and Mascarpone Mint Parfaits

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

These simple to assemble treats make a special dessert or breakfast.

Ready in 2 hours, 40 minutes
Prep time: 40 minutes
Makes: 6 to 8 parfaits

Ingredients
- 16 oz fresh strawberries, hulled and quartered
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup mascarpone cheese
- 2 lemons, zest and juices
- 5 to 7 mint leaves, finely chopped
- 1 Tbsp sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract, divided
- 6 full-size graham crackers
- 1 cup oats
- 1/4 cup butter (1/2 stick), melted
- 2 Tbsp brown sugar
- 2 cups whipping cream, plus 2 Tbsp
- 1 tsp lemon zest

Directions

1. Mix the strawberries with sugar and zest and juice of one lemon. Refrigerate at least 2 hours.

2. Mix the mascarpone with lemon juice and zest, reserving 1 teaspoon for whipped cream. Add vanilla and sprinkle in mint. Stir in 1 tablespoon whipping cream. Blend until smooth.

3. Preheat oven to 325. Place graham crackers and oats in a food processor and buzz till like bread crumbs. Transfer to a bowl and mix in melted butter and two tablespoons brown sugar. On a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, spread crumbs out in an even layer. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden brown. Once cooled, store the crumbs in an airtight container or mason jar.

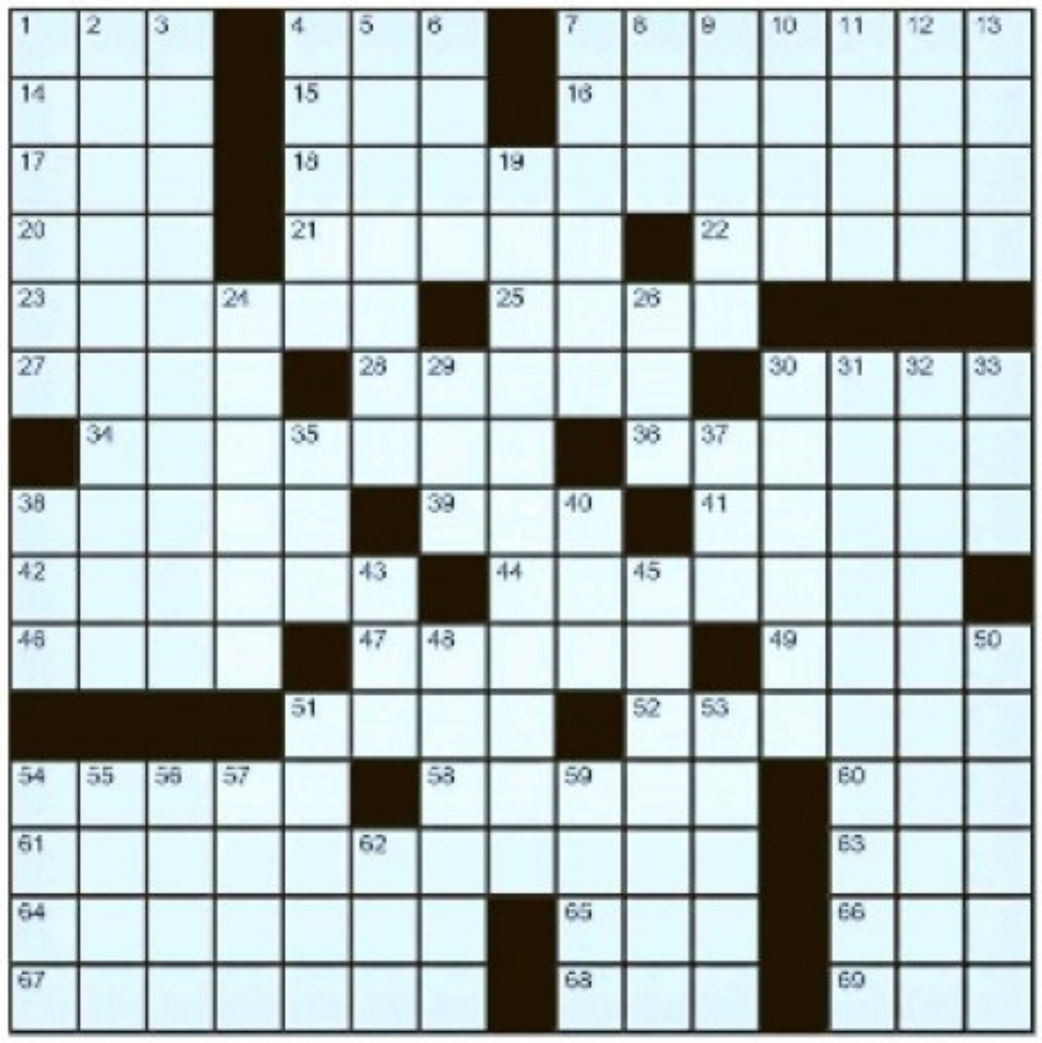
4. Using a stand mixer or electric hand mixer, mix whipping cream, lemon zest and vanilla until soft peaks form. Scoop into a piping bag.

5. Assembly: In a shallow dessert cup, put about two tablespoons of the graham mixture, two tablespoons of the mascarpone mix, a tablespoon or two of the strawberries, some more mascarpone and then top the whole lot off with some whipped cream and a teeny piece of fresh mint.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Inclined
4. Humanities degs.
7. Montreal-born writer Mordecai
14. Thoroughfare topping
15. Qty.
16. Air Canada's in-flight magazine
17. Gladiator's 601
18. Grass emblem of Alberta: 2 wds.
20. US dog org.
21. __ course (Soon enough)
22. Web commerce
23. Hamlet in Alberta north of Grande Prairie
25. Scream
27. Deer Lake's prov.
28. "Long Tall __" by Little Richard
30. Climb
34. Luba hit tune: 3 wds.
36. Blood vessel implants
38. MasterCards rivals
39. Embassy diplomat [abbr.]
41. "Where __ __": Beck hit in 1996
42. "The __" by The Band
44. Double-reed instrument
46. SINs equivalents in The States
47. Humble
49. Ye's antiquated follower
51. Figure skater Johnny
52. Certain cars
54. Hidden hoard
58. Stranger
60. 'Persist' suffix
61. Provincial Park in Ontario sharing the name of the Lake Erie village where it is situated: 2 wds.
63. Marriage notice word
64. Outfits
65. From __ Z
66. Late-summer fair in Toronto [acronym]
67. Sort of red-dish-brown
68. Equivalent word in a thesaurus, for short
69. NFL field measurements

DOWN
1. When the first sunny crack in the day arrives: 2 wds.
2. Total tales: 3 wds.
3. Fills up bit by bit: 2 wds.
4. Comedian/actor Cheech
5. Amidst
6. Particular poker
7. Fix a shoe in a way
8. Like Beethoven's 'Pastoral' symphony, __ Major
9. Angler's basket
10. Party thrower
11. __ Brasi, "The Godfather" (1972) enforcer
12. Needle case
13. Merry dance
19. Bandleader of The Royal Canadians: 2 wds.
24. 'This is owned by me' info providers: 2 wds.
26. Variantly-spelled French lily
29. Range cooker name
30. Do some updating in the workshop
31. Financial woe
32. Emulate spiked hair: 3 wds.
33. Approx.
35. Suffix meaning 'like'
37. Shakespearean contraction
38. 'Das Auto,' cars, briefly
40. __-relief
43. __ Bo (Fitness system)
45. LXX
48. Diagnostic test
50. Makeup maven Ms. Lauder's
51. "What place?"
53. Joe __ (Playwright of What the Butler Saw!)
54. Space sparkler
55. Anti-apartheid activist Desmond
56. __ & Sciences
57. Water __ (Summertime gear)
59. "Buenos __!"
62. However

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a playful, fun-loving day. You will enjoy socializing with others. Sporting events will particularly appeal to you, along with fun activities with children.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is more of a personal day for you. You might like to withdraw or retire somewhere quiet, especially your home where you can feel relaxed and protected.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a fast-paced, busy day for you. The upside is that your daily environment is stimulating! You might meet new people and see new situations. You certainly can learn something new.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Money and possessions are a priority for you today. (You're never casual about money.) If out shopping, you will be careful and wise.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today the Moon is in your sign, boosting your energy and making you more emotional. This happens for two days each month. (Yes, the Moon will be in your sign tomorrow, too.)

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Because you have been high-viz lately (and this will continue this week), use today and tomorrow to catch your breath. Hide somewhere, if you can.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
An interaction with a female friend will be important today. You might want to discuss travel plans or something related to publishing, the media, medicine and the law.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a good day to think about your life's direction in general. What do you see for yourself in the next five years? What about this year?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are the traveller of the zodiac — no question. Today you would love to get away and see someplace different. If you can't, be a tourist in your own city.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Start this week by tying up loose details with taxes, debt, bills, inheritances and shared property. Get some of this stuff out of the way. (You'll love yourself for this later.)

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others, because the Moon is opposite your sign today and tomorrow. This simply requires courtesy and cooperation.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Think about how you can get better organized today so that you feel more on top of your scene this week. Do you have any good ideas?

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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4	2	6	1	8	3	7	5	9
3	9	2	4	1	7	5	8	6
7	1	4	6	5	8	9	2	3
6	5	8	2	3	9	4	7	1
9	4	3	8	2	5	1	6	7
8	7	5	9	6	1	2	3	4
2	6	1	3	7	4	8	9	5

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HEADLINE

COFFEE

Many rich returns

Peruvian Café de Monteverde

By: Sean Deasy

Café de Monteverde makes Peru worthy of revisiting for coffee lovers

Certain countries have so much to offer that they're worth exploring again and again. The same can be said for some the world's coffee-producing nations. Peru, for instance, produces some of the planet's best coffee, and is a leader in organically grown beans. And when it comes to flavour, the South American coffee giant is certainly no one-trick pony, yielding vastly different types of beans depending on the region.

Café de Monteverde is a perfect example. Located in Rodriguez de Mendoza in the Amazonas region of northern Peru, this co-op actually produces varietals that include Arabica, Typica, Catimor, Caturra, Pache and Catuai.

And that's within just one region: whatever your Peruvian coffee of choice, it's very much the product of its local origin.

"You have different mountain ranges, different sunlight, different shade, different soil, different rainfalls," says Eric Shabsove of Mountain View Coffee in Toronto, chief curator of the Headline Coffee series. "There are all kinds of different micro-climates throughout the country. All this translates into wonderfully unique taste characteristics. Beans from one farm next to another farm won't necessarily taste the same. That's what's exciting about going back to a country like Peru and trying a different region."

Café de Monteverde's coffees are shade grown at an altitude of 1,400–1,800 meters above sea level. Thanks to the micro-climates particular to Rodriguez de Mendoza, growers can harvest all year long, with increased production between April and December. The harvest begins by selecting mature red cherries to ensure a greater concentration of sugars. Beans are then pulped, washed and fermented (fermentation is typically an 18- to 24-hour process).

The outcome is a bean that creates a smooth and well-balanced coffee. It's exquisite taste—delivering on the promise of a wonderful aroma—is a rich body of brown sugar and refined caramel notes. Café de Monteverde coffee may indeed have the perfect ratio of sweetness to acidity, says Shabsove.

Facts & figures

The Café Monteverde co-op was founded in 1989—comprising 12 families with deep roots in agriculture, conservation and education—to better serve the needs of local coffee producers. That meant striving to improve technical support to farmers, encourage best environmental practices and help its members reach international markets.

The significance of opening that door to wider markets cannot be understated.

Shabsove explains:

"Not that long ago, farmers in this region still had very small farms—perhaps half an acre, or two or three acres of land. And they would pick their harvest, come down from the hills with their donkeys or mules, and they try to sell their coffee to the buyers who would be at the bottom of the hill. Sometimes there might have been only one buyer there." Tragically, says Shabsove, these farmers were typically taken advantage of, simply because there wasn't a consistently reliable source of buyers for their coffee. "And so any price, invariably, would have to be the price they got," he laments. "But with the advent of Café Monteverde, it presented all kinds of advantages including, ultimately, by establishing a fair set price."

Repping the region

Today Café de Monteverde represents several producer organizations, including La Flor del Café, comprised of nearly 300 Fairtrade (FLO) and Organic certified producers. The co-op provides technical assistance and training for its members, financing and marketing services and helps manage the producers' organic and Fairtrade certifications.

It also offers mentorship and training to help farmers manage their resources and enhance their agricultural productivity. Individual meetings occur throughout the year covering topics such as soil conservation, pest management, harvesting and cultivation.

These are tangible benefits for farmers who produce high quality coffee, and that includes the provision and installation of solar drying tables and fermentation tanks. These benefits are real incentives for farmers to continually improve their coffee quality and processing techniques.

Sustainability soars

As part of the co-op's commitment to the environment, Café de Monteverde is assessing projects that would benefit their surrounding land and community. Project proposals include efforts to use more efficient irrigation systems, creating a sanctuary for local flora and fauna and developing better waste management systems.

This is organic coffee production at its best: The co-op is deeply involved with their farmers at every stage, including the planting of seedlings, water conservation, maintenance of soil fertility, organic matter composting and organic methods of pest control.